

Message Text

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64
ORIGIN SS-30

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /031 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/NE:NGANDREWS:CN
APPROVED BY P - AMBASSADOR PORTER

EUR/NE - MR. BUELL
EUR - MR. SPRINGSTEEN
S/S - TRPICKERING

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O 280030Z NOV 73
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 233075

STADIS//////////
EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, IC, US
SUBJECT: IDF RETENTION NEGOTIATIONS: THIRD ROUND
REFERENCE: REYKJAVIK 1413

FOR AMBASSADOR

1. DURING YOUR CALL ON THE FOREIGN MINISTER, WE HOPE YOU CAN CLARIFY WHETHER FONMIN IS AGREEABLE TO A MEETING DECEMBER 17 AS INDICATED IN HIS REPORT TO ALTHING FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. IF HE REALLY WANTS A DECEMBER MEETING, YOU SHOULD MAKE CLEAR TO HIM AMBASSADOR PORTER'S STRONG PREFERENCE FOR HAVING IT IN WASHINGTON, OR AT ANY RATE OUTSIDE ICELAND, WHICH WOULD BE MORE CONDUCIVE TO THE NEGOTIATIONS (E.G. LONDON OR BRUSSELS AFTER NATO MINISTERIAL MEETING). WE FEAR THAT ATMOSPHERE IN REYKJAVIK SO NEAR THE EXPIRATION OF SIX-MONTH PERIOD SINCE INVOCATION OF ARTICLE VII OF DEFENSE AGREEMENT IS LIKELY TO BE SOMEWHAT FEVERISH.

2. JUDGING FROM FONMIN'S PLEA OF A BUSY SCHEDULE, IT IS POSSIBLE THAT AT HEART HE WOULD PREFER NOT TO HAVE DECEMBER
SECRET

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MEETING. IF THIS IS THE CASE, WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO AGREE TO A POSTPONEMENT UNTIL JANUARY, PROVIDED HE CAN GIVE US A COMMITMENT THAT THE ICELANDIC GOVERNMENT WILL NOT, BEFORE OR DURING THE PARLIAMENTARY ADJOURNMENT, CALL FOR THE WITH-

DRAWAL OF THE IDF AND THUS START THE CLOCK RUNNING TOWARD
ITS DEPARTURE WITHIN TWELVE MONTHS. KISSINGER

SECRET

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

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